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| Shared Framework Title | Legal Empowerment |
| Amount Requested | 620 000 USD |
| Detail on Amount Requested (Optional) | The amount will be distributed among our six main objectives. |
| Background (Optional) | Ukraine has a large rural population with limited access to public services or information and people have little knowledge of their rights. Public authorities are supposed to inform and consult the population, but in reality, decision-making processes are closed and the bureaucracy is difficult to navigate. Recent developments in the country, including the on-going armed conflict in the Eastern regions, are major sources of instability. The level of trust in existing legal system is significantly low. However, the reforming process of the Ministry of Justice and previous efforts of IRF are forming a favorable field for legal empowerment expansion. Indeed, the Government is putting much effort in developing a quality system of legal aid while civil society on local level has produced numerous organizations ready to provide legal empowerment tools and services. Bringing them together is the main challenge for our team. |
| Summary of Plans and Relation to Overall Shared Framework Goals (100 words) | For the shared framework we plan to develop a network of community-based paralegals; to support the inclusion of local governments in legal empowerment efforts; to work on the integration of primary and secondary legal aid systems; to build up a strong and sustainable Community Law Centers network; to develop e-justice services; to conduct a sociological survey to determine legal needs and awareness in Ukraine. We are interested in collaboration with Foundations in South Africa, Moldova and the USA on certified paralegals program development and IT solutions for legal awareness and justice services. We are open to share experience with Mongolia and other counties on local governments engagement into legal empowerment including funding, management of institutionalized community based justice services providers. Study and analysis of legal needs hidden demand is also an area there we are looking for collaboration with other national teams. |
| Activities Proposed (500 words) | <p>1. Network of community-based paralegals: bringing together a task force, study-tour for working group, development of viable paralegal model and training curricula adapted to Ukrainian context, selection and trainings, approbation and certification by the Ministry of Justice, presentation of results.</p> <p>2. Local governments support: capacity-building for local representatives, development of LEP handbook on the creation of local legal aid programmes, advocacy efforts for local programmes approval.</p> |

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| | <p>3. Integration of primary and secondary legal aid: support and trainings for the Integrators network, second round of contest for NGOs working with government-based legal aid centers.</p> <p>4. Community Law Centers network: monitoring, producing unified model and quality standards, support to thematic activities (legal consultations, mediation, work with vulnerable groups etc.).</p> <p>5. E-justice services: launch of smart phone application, support to on-line legal aid services, development of knowledge tools and trainings for government-based IT-hubs lawyers.</p> <p>6. Sociological survey: development of ToR by working group, call for proposal, field research and analytical work, presentation of results.</p> |
| Summary for Board Reports (100 words) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recruit, train, certify and supervise paralegals according to an operational guideline and training program it will develop. Conduct a pilot training and assess its efficacy. 2. Develop model programs for local communities that focus on legal awareness and community safety.. 3. Integrators map legal aid providers at the local level. 4. Finalize scope and design of the study and start fieldwork with particular focus on vulnerable communities. 5. Develop standards and procedures for community-based non-governmental providers. 6. Establish a technology-focused working group with the Ministry of Justice. |
| Collaborating Programs within OSF and essential partners or grantees | Our main partners for Legal empowerment shared framework will be the Coordination center for legal aid, Community Law Centers network, Ukrainian Legal Aid Foundation. We plan to organize joint activities with the “Roma of Ukraine” programme initiative and turn to OSJI and NAMATI for expertise and consultations. Other partners include “Quality and Accessible Legal aid in Ukraine” project that will co-fund our LEP activities. Prospective partners involved in LEP field in Ukraine are USAID, UNDP and SIDA. |
| Contributions expected from Collaborating Programs (250 words) | Contributions expected from “Quality and Accessible Legal aid in Ukraine” project funded by the government of Canada (290 000 USD) and from IRF core budget (270 000 USD). The Ministry of Justice of Ukraine is also contributing by supporting the network of Integrators (200 000 USD) and providing in kind contributions. |
| Statement of who within OSF would guide the work | Zaza Namoradze (OSJI)/Roman Romanov (IRF) |

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| Approver (Lead) (See list on Reserve Funds KARL) | Name | Zaza Namoradze |
| | Date Approved | March 14, 2016 |
| Approver (Lead) Notes / Comments (Optional) (To be completed by | | |

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| <i>approver only)</i> | | |
| Urgency level for grant approval & payments | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Rapid Response | <input type="checkbox"/> Rapid Response <i>(See procedure on KARL)</i> |
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| If approved, where to allocate the budget? <i>(If the budget is split between multiple programs, please copy/paste this section as needed.)</i> | Amount | <i>620 000 USD</i> |
| | Category of Work <i>Justice reform and the rule of law</i> Sub-theme <i>Access to justice</i> | LXXS002 : SHARED FRAMEWORK : Legal Empowerment |
| | Division/Program Code | 67000_Foundations- Hum Rights & Just : Law Programs |
| | Entity | <i>IRF</i> |
| | Fund Class | <i>Non-Lobbying NL</i> |
| | Geography | <i>Ukraine UKRF</i> |